

From the Washington Union of 4th inst.

Farewell Reception at the White House.
While all patriotic citizens, in every section of the country, bear testimony to the dignity, the firmness, and the patriotism which have marked the official career of President Pierce, his high moral worth and his social excellences have inspired his countrymen to the lasting respect of the citizenry of this metropolis. It was not to be won, and therefore, that a large concourse of ladies and gentlemen visited the White House yesterday, when the municipal authorities, in compliance with an official vote, went to pay their respectful respects. The East Room was filled in a few moments after the doors were opened; and when the President made his appearance, Mayor Magruder addressed him as follows:

MR. PRESIDENT: I have the honor of introducing to you the board of aldermen and common council, and other members of our city government, together with many of my fellow-citizens, to acknowledge officially the many favors and courtesies which you have shown, and a special appreciation of the official kindness you have evinced towards our city in the many recommendations you have made to the national legislature in our behalf—recommendations which fully show that you recognise, to a just extent, the obligation of the nation to foster the capital by aiding its people to make it what it is now designed to be, a city of the greatest and most useful metropolis, worthy of a great and powerful nation.

And, sir, we have not only to express our high sense of our obligations to you officially, but we have also to acknowledge the kindness which has marked your social intercourse with us and our constituents, and to assure you that the community, with whom you have so long and so kindly labored, will feel that on your departure they will rather lose one of their own, most cherished citizens than one who has had only official residence amongst them. We need not, then, say that we grieve at the separation, and that our farewell is not only full of official respect, but also of personal esteem and affection; and we sincerely hope that in your retirement you may enjoy the same successful happiness, which must proceed from the consciousness of a faithful discharge of your public duties.

The President's reply was happily conceived, and beautifully expressed, his manner endorsing his words as the sentiments of his heart. He was listened to with marked attention, and the deep feeling manifested by the audience showed the great value they attached to his remarks. He was warmly and substantially, as follows :

Mr. MAYOR : I receive with unaffected gratification this demonstration of sentiments of good will toward myself on the part of the city authorities and people of Washington. Nearly one-half of the years of my membership have been passed here, and the acquaintance made each year has been an enlargement of my appreciation of the admirable qualities which characterize the permanent population of the District. No man can notice the quiet of a Sabbath in this city, and the evidences on all hands of its sacred tolerance, without being impressed by the conviction that he is among a people who are true to their religious principles, and who are distinguished by their high character and high moral standards. I have shared largely in a generous hospitality, have made many valued acquaintances, and formed friendships which I trust may be as lasting as my life.

Under the circumstances, it would be strange, indeed, if I could regard with anything but lively interest whatever is calculated to promote your happiness and advance your substantial prosperity. Here, in the young city of Columbia, every section of our common country is represented; and they are fortunately habitually free from the influences of discord or alienation. Here the love of this blessed Union and the spirit of toleration which ever animated the founder of the city, and the Father of his Country, have never grown cold.

As the seat of the government and centre of the Federal political power, you will always enjoy great advantages. The climate is healthy, the air pure, the salubrious climate, and scenery of rare beauty, make the District of Columbia, at no distant day, the seat of a great city, pre-eminently distinguished for its talents, taste, science, and refinement. I enjoy in anti-

There are certain great improvements the completion of which I earnestly desired to witness during my official term. I trust they are delayed—not by any neglect of mine, but by the permission to me to visit you hereafter, I hope to find gushing forth from the Great Falls of the Potomac everywhere in your city springing up and sparkling in the sunlight, and representing, in their native purity and abundance, your moral health and social prosperity.

I desire to express, for Mrs. Pierce and myself, the assurance of your respectful regards to our friends who are the subjects of our grateful remembrance, which we shall never cease to remember.

At the conclusion of these remarks the authorities and citizens, individually, shook hands with the President.

ident, many lingering to express their gratitude for his courtesies and kindnesses since he has occupied the presidential chair. Several large deputations of clerks from the Treasury and other departments were presented to pay their adieu, and there was no diminution of the influx of visitors. The President was forced to retire, that he might attend to the pressing official business. It has well been remarked that no retiring President ever elicited more regret from the community of Washington; no one of his predecessors has been easier of access, more kind in courtesy, more attentive to the bereaved and suffering among us, more devoted to all the interests of the city, more patient and more longer required to oblige him to the western and residence of the President of Washington, and their best wishes for his health and happiness, with that of his estimable lady, will ever attend him.

Hon. J. C. Dobbin—The Navy Department.
The Journal of Commerce does no more than simple justice to Secretary Dobbin in the following remarks:

THE NAVY DEPARTMENT.—President Pierce has seen more fortunate than some of his predecessors in the unity of his cabinet. Regarding the several departments as co-ordinate branches of the executive government, he left them free to enforce and carry out his administrative policy according to the laws. While the rising sun commands our patriotic admiration, our gratitude should not be entirely withheld from the sun which is quietly but brilliantly setting. Next to the Department of the Treasury—if, indeed, not with it or before it—no one of the executive branches is more closely identified with the great interests of commerce than that of the Navy Department. It was well said by Carlyle that "Commerce is King." The country, therefore, owes to its Secretary of the Navy, Hon. J. C. Dobbin, many acknowledgments for his ability with which he has uniformly discharged his arduous duties.

In reviewing the history of the Navy Department for the last four years, we discover progress in the right direction, which is to be hoped may not be retarded by the present war. The improvement in ordnance and gunnery gear, improvements that have been made, and judicious measures of a preliminary character have been adopted to secure for sea-service a supply of experienced seamen, well qualified by training for the use of heavy naval armament, and for having the necessary knowledge of the operation of the guns, and the immediate supervision of an officer detailed especially for the service. For schooling seamen to this end, a gunnery practice-ship has been put in commission at Washington, with an experimental complement of a few light and light guns. The superior quality of large caliber guns, and the fact that the present ordnance is not of such small caliber, is no longest problem;

It is by no means probable that the small arms which may be made from time to time, to form a branch of the service, will be of much use. It is to be feared that the position of the small arms will be forced by Mr. Dobbin in his annual report for the construction of additional sloops-of-war, with the auxiliary power of steam, which from their comparatively small draught of water might be serviceable in shallow coasts, and within the ports of our southern seaboard, had met with so little of legislative success, that the small arms will be of little use. The small account kept good by razeering or repairing the ships of the line and such old frigates as the *Brandywine*, *Potomac*, *Savannah*, and others now lying at anchor, our navy-water housed ever and in ordinary, our colonial naval forces must soon windle down to half strength, and the vulnerable small harbor vessels, our gun-boats, will be reduced to a small concentrated and defended by vessels of a larger class, will continue to be without adequate protection—since the successful experiment of razeering the

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL.

WILMINGTON, N. C. MONDAY, MARCH 2, 1857.

Moore's Creek Celebration.

The eightieth anniversary of the battle of Moore's Creek, was celebrated on the battle ground on Friday last, the 27th ult.

The multitude present on the occasion was considerably greater than that assembled on the same spot last year. It is always difficult to estimate a meeting in the open air, and that fact is proven by the very different figures given by equally good judges. Not far from a thousand persons went up in boats from Wilmington; and we think that about twice as many reached the ground in other ways, from this and other counties. Perhaps we would not be far from the mark in saying that there were some three thousand persons on the ground—among them, the very handsomely equipped company of Lafayette Light Infantry from Fayetteville, under the command of Major John Cook; the Light Infantry, the German Volunteers, the Rifle Cadets, and the Cadets of Mr. Radcliff's School, from Wilmington; and though last, by no means least, the members of the Howard Engine Company, in their firemen's costume, all adding to the interest of the occasion, and lending an imposing character to the display.

The steamer Champion, with the Volunteers and Fire Companies from town; the Magnolia, with the Fayetteville Company; the Flora MacDonald, and the Spray, with the "citizens generally," reached the landing not much after eleven o'clock, and those on board started for the ground—some two or three miles off—in a procession, consisting of civil and military, pedestrians, and equestrians, with all manner of vehicles interspersed, these latter mainly led by ladies, who, by the way, turned out in far larger numbers than they did last year.

After some time spent in viewing the ground, tracing out the lines of nearly defaced embankments, marking the stump of what was a tree when McLeod fell by it pierced by several bullets, speculating on the precise location of the spot consecrated by the blood of John Grady, the only martyr to independence who fell during the battle, and otherwise deepening the impressions of the event, by dwelling on the remaining souvenirs which the scene afforded, the meeting gathered about the speaker's stand, where the exercises of the day were opened by a solemn and impressive appeal to the throne of Grace offered up by the Rev. Mr. Grier of Wilmington, invoking the Divine blessing and countenance upon those gathered together and upon the objects which had led to their assembling.

It would be impossible for us, in the brief limits to which the necessities of our restricted space compel us to confine our notice of Mr. Wright's address, to do anything like justice to that able and eloquent effort. We can only attempt a brief and inadequate synopsis; but while regretting the brevity and inadequacy of our report, we are consoled by the reflection that so many, so very many of our readers enjoyed the privilege of hearing the orator himself, and want not our slight transcript to render more vivid the impression made by his glowing periods.

Mr. Wright congratulated his hearers that they had again the privilege of meeting upon ground consecrated by the gallant deeds of their patriotic ancestors, and upon the anniversary of a day illustrated by a feat of arms whose glory heralded the still greater glory of their country's freedom. He welcomed them to the spot, and could only wish that it were in his power to do justice to the occasion.

Meet and proper was it that they should assemble to do honor to a day and a deed so eminently worthy of commemorative homage. Too long had that homage been withheld—too long had the field consecrated to patriotism remained unmarked and unvisited—too seldom had the deed which hallows it been the theme of patriotic eulogy. It may be that the illustrious dead need no monument—their glorious deeds no formal commemoration—that both are alike present to our memories and enshrined in our hearts. But, whether they need it or not, it is due from us that they should be honored otherwise and elsewhere than in our hearts. This duty of the living to their dead benefactors has been recognized in all ages and in every land, and the column and the cenotaph had been caused to ascend, and song and story, and formal celebration, had appealed to the hearts of the nations in honor of the great men and the great deeds of their history. Prompted by a kindred feeling, we had met together to indulge in grateful recollections of the men and the deed of the 27th of February, 1776.

He would open to them the volume of our country's history wherein is written the story of the tyrannies which were practised by England and endured by us for ten long years, before galled by intolerable oppression North Carolina broke out in rebellion, after having in vain exhausted remonstrance and appeal. Tyrannous taxes imposed, appropriations refused for the relief of the colony, the courts of justice closed to her citizens, the asylum of her legislative rights violated, the sanctity of life and property no longer respected, all these, called for redress, which all felt could now only be looked for from their own stout hearts and strong arms. The spirit of rebellion pervaded the province, it blazed out in the stamp act rebellion in the streets of Wilmington, it was felt in every town and hamlet in the land. But this was not the occasion, nor was his the duty to dwell longer upon a theme which belonged more properly to the annalist. He would turn to the events bearing more strictly upon the subject then before him and more directly connected with the occasion of the meeting.

In the month of January, 1776, a royal cruiser floated upon the Cape Fear, behind whose wooden walls Martin, the last royal Governor of North Carolina had taken shelter. Driven from his palace at Newbern, which he had vainly attempted to fortify, he had sought refuge under the better protection which he supposed was to be found behind the guns of Fort Johnston. But the eagle eyes of the patriots of the Cape Fear were upon him. They discovered his plottings against their liberties—their attempts to arm and excite the slaves against their masters—and they determined to dislodge him. There re-appeared on the scene one who perhaps did more to kindle and keep burning the fires of freedom than any other man of that perilous time. That man was Col. John Ashe, a man of whom his native county and State should ever be proud, as one of the ablest, most eloquent and most gallant patriots of the Revolution. Holding the rank of Col. under the Royal Governor, he instantly resigned his commission as soon as the machinations of Martin were discovered; he was immediately elevated to the same rank by popular election. Folding his commission from the people, he promptly led the regiment which he raised and for the support of which he had pledged his own private estate, against Fort Johnston, which was soon demolished, his own hand applying the torch. Gov. Martin sought refuge on board the King's sloop of war, and from that last stronghold of royalty, issued his proclamation denouncing the rebellion and promising forgiveness of all offences to such as would rally around the standard which he proposed to erect. Commissions issued to Allen McDonald, Donald McDonald, Alexander McLeod and other leading men, to erect the Royal standard, rally all loyal

subjects under it, and meet him (Martin) at Brunswick on the 15th of the following February, for the purpose of effecting a junction with Sir Henry Clinton and Lord Cornwallis. Strangers to the soil, ignorant of its language, their childish feelings appealed to, the Highlanders, survivors of the dark days of Culloden, whom experience had taught to dread the weight of the Royal power, while they were anxious to conciliate the royal favour, rallied promptly around the standard of King George. Called upon "to step forward and draw their broad-swords as their forefathers had often done in defence of their King"—stirred by the pibroch of their native land, they did step forward, with the martial enthusiasm of their race. They came, but they came not alone—the rascal's traitor to his native land, was with them.

But the patriots were not idle. As soon as the rally of the clansmen and their allies at Cross Creek became known, they flew to arms. The plough was left in the furrow—the wife girded on her husband's sword, and the boy, not yet fully arrived at man's estate, pressed forward to meet the enemies of his country, with all the determination of mature years. Led on by the able and gallant General James Moore, the patriot forces at once moved forward towards the rendezvous of the Royalists, and being joined by Cols. Lillington, Ashe and Kenan, with their respective commands, they encamped at Rockfish, about eight miles from the enemy.

On the 19th of February, Gen. Moore received a letter from Gen. McDonald offering Royal clemency to all who would join the Royal standard, and denouncing Royal vengeance against all who would not. The Royalist overtures were promptly rejected. On the 20th, the Highland army, two thousand strong—left their position at Cross Creek, with the evident view of forcing Moore's position and continuing their march to Wilmington, but finding it too strong to be forced, they retraced their steps and crossed the river at Camptown. On discovering this movement Moore sent an express to Col. Caswell who was coming up with about eight hundred men, to take a position at Corbett's Ferry on Black River, with a view of intercepting the enemy. Cols. Lillington and Ashe were ordered to make a forced march and if possible, reinforce Caswell; or, failing in that, take possession of Moore's Creek Bridge—that field of fame on which we stand. He himself at once proceeded with the remainder of his army, to cross the river at Elizabethtown, in the hope of being able to aid in arresting the progress of the Royalists, who crossed three miles above Caswell's position on Black River. Meanwhile, Lillington, with his brave command, reached Moore's Creek Bridge on the 25th, where he was joined on the ensuing day by Caswell, with his minute men. Soon as the junction was effected, preparations were made to receive the enemy, who had hurried up, and arrived on the 26th, confident, no doubt, of victory, as was Ferguson at King's Mountain, when he said that all the rebels out of H—l could not drive him from his position. The main features of the scene then were very much as they are now, and the eye glancing around, can easily appreciate the strength of the patriots' position, and admire the judgment which selected it.

The night of the 26th passed in busy preparation. The morning came and brought with it the note of conflict—the Highland blood was stirred by the bugle and bag-pipe—the Highland column presses on, unbroken until it reaches the American lines, where all is silent. But that silence is broken by the roar of musketry—the hot fire bursts from the lines, and the column rises before it—the cannon sweeps the crowded bridge—McLeod, the Highland leader, falls—Campbell falls—still the fight goes on, until a portion of the American forces having crossed the Creek, take the enemy in the rear—bereft of the leaders, the clansmen are seized with panic—the battle of Moore's Creek is won, and the standard of King George is in the dust. Thus was fought, and thus was won the battle which we commemorate. The immediate loss of the enemy was considerable—the ultimate effect of his repulse would be difficult to estimate. Many men were, most probably, wounded on the American side; but one is known to have been killed. That man was John Grady of Duplin, a private in Caswell's regiment of minute men, who won his death by an intrepidity which scorned the shield of the breastwork.

The trophies of the field were large quantities of arms, over eight hundred prisoners, and a box of English gold. Among the prisoners was General McDonald. But the great result was the breaking up of the concerted plan for the invasion of the State—the elevation of the hearts of the patriots, and the depression of their enemies. The State, it not the whole South, was saved. The ranks of the royalists were thinned and broken, and the preponderance given to the patriot cause in the councils of the State, which it never subsequently lost. The banner of liberty, before drooping, was never subsequently lowered.

North Carolina followed up the blow by the first legislative recommendation of a Declaration of Independence by the Continental Congress, made on the American Continent. That blow, the first victory ever achieved over British power in America, was succeeded by other triumphs, until the opening day at Yorktown left our forefathers in undisputed possession of the precious liberties they had won, and which we now enjoy.

But, it might be asked, who was the commander at the Battle of Moore's Creek. To General Moore was due the strategical arrangement that indicated the point at which the stand was to be made; whether the inmediate command at the battle rested with Caswell or Lillington, was a vexed question, which he regretted his inability to discuss fully at this time, while he did not feel at liberty to totally pass over a question in which the claims of a favorite son of New Hanover were involved. He briefly reviewed the evidence of history, and the circumstances of the case, which had led him to the conclusion that, however common report, and even official action, had led to the impression that Caswell was in command, the truth was that the command on the occasion rested with Lillington, and that if to one man more than another could be awarded the title of "the hero of Moore's Creek," that man was Col. Lillington, of New Hanover.

But the revolution had other fields, and the Cape Fear Country, justly termed the Gibraltar of North Carolina, had other brave spirits, who struck many a gallant blow for their country. Time would not serve to blazon their names, or amplify their deeds. He would ask them to go with him in imagination to but one of those fields of fame, where a battle was fought, only second in importance to that which we had met to commemorate. He alluded to the battle of Elizabethtown, fought by the gallant patriots, among whom were Owen and Morehead, and Robeson and others of Bladen county, under their chosen commander, Col. T. Brown, who marched with his forces against the stronghold of the Tories at Elizabethtown, crossed the river noiselessly, and gave notice of their presence to the foe only by the wild war cry of death or victory. The stronghold of the Tories was stormed, and his forces defeated. Thus was achieved a victory which shattered the strength of the Tories, thrilled through the heart of the Cape Fear with joy, and exhibited a degree of skill and valor

only exceeded by the patriotism which called them into action.

Such were the men and such the days of the Revolution, days in which you had not only heroes in the camp, but also in the council—your Hoopers and your Harnetts, as well as your Moores, and your Lillingtons, and your Ashes. Men unsurpassed in valor or devotion by the proudest names of antiquity—men whom we must hold in honor or be recreant to all the feelings of gratitude and patriotism. Let us not be so recreant. Let us build high, at last, that monument, the foundation stone of which we this day lay in honor of a victory enabled by a noble cause. Let us ever hallow in our hearts the spot on which we stand—let the monument we build on it ever be an altar to freedom, where we may relume the fires of patriotism, and hither, like Hamlet of old, let us come with our children, and swear on such an altar undying hostility to the enemies of their country.

We have thus briefly glanced at some of the points in an address, which was listened to with marked pleasure and enthusiasm by the vast audience assembled—much has been unavoidably omitted—much merely hinted at rather than reported.

After Mr. Wright had concluded, the ceremony of laying the corner stone of a monument commemorative of the event celebrated, was proceeded with under the direction of the committee of arrangements. Dr. F. J. Hill of Wilmington, made a brief but highly appropriate address and proceeded to deposit a box containing the publications of the day—all the remains of the patriotic Grady that could be found, etc., after which the stone was sealed up, the benediction was pronounced by Rev. Mr. Grier, the military band saluted and the ceremonies of the day were at an end.

Some little inconvenience was experienced from some of the arrangements not having been made in anticipation of so large a crowd, but these matters will always happen and cannot well be avoided. The occasion upon the whole was a pleasant one, and passed off without any unpleasant incident to mar the enjoyment of those participating. If we except the unfortunate loss of a colored boy belonging to a gentleman in Fayetteville, who fell from the Magnolia on his way up and was drowned before assistance could be rendered. Our military visitors from Fayetteville left on Saturday, carrying with them our best wishes for their health and happiness—the jubilation is over and we are once more at work, none the worse for the brief relaxation—none the less patriotic for the Associations of Moore's Creek.

We might dwell upon the friends we met from various counties, the good feeling and harmony pervading the assemblage, etc., but are not these things for each man to know and remember on his own hook. Major General Martellier, was present in the uniform of his rank, and looked better in health and spirits than we had seen him look for years. Brigadier General J. Waters was also on the ground, and the sons and daughters of the Neuse and Cape Fear generally met together brim-full of patriotism. So say it always be.

The Corruption Cases.

Congress, beyond doubt, owes it to its own dignity to investigate and to punish all cases of bribery or corruption charged against its members, should the investigation result in conviction. Without such course be adopted the national legislature must sink into contempt, and lose the confidence and respect of the country. Unfortunately, this confidence is already too much impaired from the impression that these charges are not without foundation. We fear that this impression is not an erroneous one, although we are far from joining in that tone of sweeping denunciation that at a venture sets down politicians and Congressmen in a lump as worse than their neighbors. There are as good men in Congress, and as many of them, as in any similar body of the same number, subjected to the same temptations.

But while we recognize the necessity for this investigation, we cannot but regret the occurrence of that necessity at so late a period in the session, when so much business has to be done, and so few days remain to do it. The fear becomes general that the new President will be forced to resort to the call of an extra session, for the purpose of having action taken upon the necessary appropriation bills, though this may, perhaps, be avoided, especially as the members will get no extra pay, and may therefore be disposed to do something at the very close, to obviate this necessity.

To us here, so far as our appropriation is concerned, we fear that the effect of this obstruction of business will be dangerous, if not fatal, and if that appropriation does fail, the corruption affair may fairly be charged with that failure, so that it will be quite an expensive affair to the Cape Fear Bar.

But let us hope for the best. Our eyes are turned in an especial manner to Washington City, the point to which so many from all sections of the country have already turned their steps; for the trains East and West, North and South are already bearing travellers to the city of magnificent distances to be present at the great event of the inauguration. Washington will, according to all accounts, be fuller than ever it was before, and the inauguration surpasses in display any former occasion of the kind. It will be a sight well worth seeing—a thing to be remembered, though hardly to be enjoyed, on account of the crowd and the insufficient accommodations, and the dear living, and the dust, and the noise and the confusion, and the want of sleep, and the hackmen, and the Lord knows what else, all of which, and more, ought to be thankfully remembered by those who can't go, and, therefore, need consolation. We intend to beat these things in mind, and as we sit in our quiet sanctum here, while big things are going on there, thank the Lord that we are a unit going to make up the multitude; though, sooth to say, we rather think, spite of all our philosophy and other sources of comfort, that we should like to see the sight once in our lives. It is something, this quiet and peaceful laying down of power by one man and taking it up by another man—a something never seen to the same extent in any other land, perhaps hardly possible elsewhere.

The New Treaty with Mexico.

The Richmond Enquirer of the 26th inst., says:—"By a passenger on last evening's train, direct from Mobile, we learn that the Mexican steamer of war Guerillo had arrived at that city last Saturday, with a beaver of despatches from Mr. Forsyth, our Minister in Mexico. The despatches were due at Washington yesterday, and our informant says he was assured by the bearer that the draught of the new treaty, with the transmission of which he was entrusted, does not embrace the cession of any new territory to the U. States, but that its leading features are the adjustment of claims due to American citizens by Mexico, and an agreement on the part of that government to admit all articles of American produce (or imported from the United States) at a lower rate of duty, 20 per cent., than similar goods for other countries—on condition that the United States shall loan to Mexico an amount of money sufficient to meet her present pressing liabilities and wants. The amount our informant does not recollect precisely."

CAPE FEAR AND DEEP RIVER.—We understand that the gentlemen authorized by the company to make arrangements for the completion of this work with certain parties having mining interests in the Deep River basin, have made such arrangement for getting the work promptly into operation. The details have not transpired. We can only say that we are assured that the arrangement is not one with which the company or the community will have any just cause to be dissatisfied.

The News Generally.

It will be seen that on Friday last the House of Representatives took action on the Corruption Cases of Messrs. Gilbert, Matteson and Welch, passing resolutions declaring the two former guilty of conduct unfitting them for membership of the House, and laying similar resolutions with reference to Mr. Welch on the table—dismissing them for want of evidence. Gilbert and Matteson anticipated the formal resolution of expulsion by resigning.

On Saturday an effort by Mr. Washburn to get up the Cape Fear bill with the view of lacking other appropriation bills on to it as amendments, failed by four votes, two thirds not voting for the suspension of the rules. We fear that the chances for our appropriation are very slim.

The Senate has passed a substitute for the House Tariff Bill. The Senate Bill is offered by Mr. Hunter of Virginia, and contemplates a reduction of fifteen millions per annum. We fear that no bill for a reduction of the revenue can pass this Session.

Governor Geary is getting into trouble in Kansas, which, like Jordan, is a hard road to travel, as will be seen by the following, which, like everything that from that quarter is, no doubt, exaggerated:

Terrible Outbreak in Kansas—Governor Geary Assassinated—Several Persons Shot. St. Louis, Feb. 26.—The Jefferson City correspondent of the St. Louis Democrat learns by passengers from Kansas to night, that a difficulty had occurred between Gov. Geary and a man named Sherrod, growing out of the refusal of the former to appoint the latter to the office of sheriff, as desired by the Legislature, and which had a fatal termination. Sherrod had avowed the purpose of killing Gov. Geary, and meeting him in the street just in his face. Gov. Geary did not resent the insult, but his friends got up an instant meeting on Thursday, the 19th. Sheriff Jones, Sherrod and others attempted to interrupt the meeting, and in the affray Sherrod was killed, and several others were wounded. Mr. Jones, Geary's Secretary, thereupon shot Sherrod through the head, killing him instantly. Great excitement prevailed at Leocompton, and a general fight was anticipated. Gov. Geary's residence was guarded by United States troops.

St. Louis, Feb. 26.—Sherrod is the name of the man who was appointed by the Supreme Court of Kansas to fill the vacancy occasioned by Sheriff Jones' resignation, and a general fight was anticipated. Sherrod had avowed the purpose of killing Gov. Geary, and meeting him in the street just in his face. Gov. Geary did not resent the insult, but his friends got up an instant meeting on Thursday, the 19th. Sheriff Jones, Sherrod and others attempted to interrupt the meeting, and in the affray Sherrod was killed, and several others were wounded. Mr. Jones, Geary's Secretary, thereupon shot Sherrod through the head, killing him instantly. Great excitement prevailed at Leocompton, and a general fight was anticipated. Gov. Geary's residence was guarded by United States troops.

The last advices from Kansas exhibit rather a disturbed state of things.

On last evening we noticed a large, rather good looking gentleman, turned of middle life, sitting at a table in the Carolina Hotel, quietly reading. The gentleman, we were informed, was Mr. Peabody the great London American Banker. A man of mark is Mr. Peabody, not more distinguished by his munificence than by his modesty and good sense.

If the weather didn't change last night, we are no judge of weather. It is as cold to-day as charity—more so, we trust. We fear that fruit and early vegetation will suffer severely.

Dr. Deems' Lectures.

We copy from the Commercial of Saturday last, the following article. Our church going people will, no doubt, be pleased at the opportunity of listening to these Lectures.

"The official members of the Front Street Methodist Church have obtained the consent of their Pastor, the Rev. Dr. Deems, to deliver his two very popular Lectures, 'Trade Life, its Poetry and Ethics,' and 'True Dignity of Money Making,' the proceeds to be appropriated to the completion of that edifice.

It is proposed to erect a suitable Steeple, furnished with a bell, an improvement every one, interested in the church, and the architectural character of our town, will induce the citizens to design the Dr. has very generously consented to give these lectures.

The commendatory notices of these Lectures by the Press where they have been delivered, has created a desire in many of our citizens to have them repeated here, and it is believed that the object in view, and the intellectual entertainment they will surely afford, will induce the citizens to give these lectures.

The time and place for their delivery will be duly noticed. Tickets may be obtained at the Book Store, Lippe's Drug Store, J. D. Gardner, at the Cape Fear Bank, and at the Stores of George H. Kelly and Zeno H. Greene, and at The Commercial Office.

The Latest from California.

New York, Feb. 27.—The steamship Illinois arrived at 7 o'clock this evening from Aspinwall, with the California mails of the 5th instant. She connected at the isthmus with the steamship Sonora, which brought down about \$1,700,000 in treasure, the bulk of which was transferred to the Illinois, but the exact amount is not stated.

The Sonora spoke on the 9th February the steamer John L. Stephens, and on the 18th Golden Gate, bound for San Francisco.

The California news is unimportant.

A committee of the legislature reported that there had been \$124,000 taken from the treasury. The treasurer accounted for its disappearance by the exhibition of a bond of the Pacific Express Company, engaging to pay the next July interest on the State debt. The validity of the bond was questioned, as it did not acknowledge the receipt of the money. The treasurer had been called on to give additional security for the money in his keeping, and a proposition to impeach him was before the legislature.

Kalifornia & Co., dry goods dealers, had failed—Liabilities \$200,000. Dates from Puget's Sound are to the 16th of Jan. The Indians were again threatening hostilities. Iowa Hill, Placer county, California, has been nearly destroyed by fire; loss, \$150,000.

Mexican bandits were devastating the Southern counties of California. The Sheriff of Los Angeles and three constables, who went to protect the people, were murdered. The legislature had appropriated \$5,000 to assist in exterminating the robbers.

The recent earthquake caused the ground to open ten feet wide for many miles in length in the southern part of the State. The hundred men sailed from San Francisco, on the 21st ult., for San Diego, intending to go thence overland to Sonora.

Business at San Francisco was dull, and there was no improvement in prices. The mines were yielding largely, except those in the Northern part of the State, which were blockaded with snow.

The receipts of gold at San Francisco were twenty per cent. greater than on the previous fortnight. A meeting of citizens of Mariposa had resolved to resist Col. Fremont's claim to the Mariposa tract.

A bill before the senate, providing for the working of the mines on the grants made before the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, will, if passed, enable the Mariposa settlers to defeat Fremont's claim. Dates from Oregon are to the 24th January. The Columbia river was again open. There had been great suffering from cold, and many cattle had died from starvation. The soldiers at Fort Walla Walla were reduced to half rations.

The isthmus news is unimportant, and there is nothing to beget from it. The steamer Columbus arrived at Panama on the 16th inst., with Costa Rica dates to the 5th of February. She brought twelve deserters from Walker's army. The captain of the Columbus reports that a vessel of the allied squadron had captured a schooner belonging to Chris. Lilly, whilst conveying supplies for Walker. The schooner was taken to La Union, where Lilly and his men were detained as prisoners of war.

The former was to be sent to Guatemala for trial. Point Trinidad, on the San Juan river, was occupied by 400 Costa Ricans, well armed and provisioned, and a rumor was current that 180 filibusters, with a small steamer and eighteen boats, were about to attack it. The latest accounts state that on January 29th the steamer came to Trinidad, and after a few shots were exchanged the retired. Forces were getting ready to go down the river in search of her. In the actions of the 27th and 29th January the Costa Ricans lost sixty killed and wounded. There is nothing later from South America.

Honors to Mr. Kane.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 27.—A large meeting of citizens was held this evening, and appointed a committee to co-operate with the councils in paying honors to the remains of Dr. Kane. A series of resolutions was adopted, praying tribute to be granted to his virtues, noble deeds, and public services of the deceased.

Three days later from Europe.

HALLOW, Feb. 28.—The Cunard steamship Niagara, from Liverpool on the 14th inst., arrived this forenoon, bringing three days' later advices from Europe. The Collins steamer Atlantic arrived out on the 13th, and the Cunard steamship Persia of the morning of the 14th inst.

The news from this side, per Atlantic and Persia, greatly excited the Liverpool cotton market, and, with an unsettled market, prices were considerably higher.

The Liverpool breadstuffs and provision markets were dull and without much change. Money was decidedly easier.

Consols for money sold at 93 3/4.

The political news by the Niagara is not of an important character. The most important portion of the news by this arrival is the rumored termination of the Persian war.

The London News says that no more troops will be sent either to Persia or Canton, and that the British forces at Bushire will not advance into the interior of Persia.

Every effort is being made to effect peace, and there is every reason to hope that the negotiations at Paris will terminate in amicable relations between Persia and England.

New troubles are brewing in Europe, growing out of the question of the participation of the United States in the question of the annexation of Texas.

The London Times says that a satisfactory settlement of that question cannot be endangered by such an imprudent manifesto as that published in the Monitor.

The Times further says that it will be the duty of England to declare positively against temporizing with the integrity of the Turkish empire, and to act with firmness and resolutely in support of the resolution taken against the proposed union of the principalities.

Thirty-Fourth Congress—Third Session.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25, 1857.

SENATE.—The Senate concurred in the House amendments to the submarine telegraph bill, which is now finally passed.

The Senate passed the Minnesota State bill, omitting the prohibition against foreigners voting.

HOUSE.—Mr. Davis, of Maryland, called up the resolution of the select committee for the expulsion of Mr. Gilbert. A debate ensued, during which a paper was read from Mr. Gilbert, denying the truth of the charges, and demanding a trial. He asks that certain experts testimony of Sweeney and Simonton, be produced and printed, deeming it necessary for his defence. Mr. Bennett offered a resolution to effect that object, and moved to recommittal the report.

Mr. Oran said that Mr. Simonton declined to give the names of certain witnesses, except on condition that they will not be published, as the evidence was merely surmise of Simonton, and did not affect the merits of the case. After much debate, the original testimony was produced, from which it appeared that omissions were made, going to show that the chief anxiety of Sweeney was to convict the accused.—Mr. Furman offered a resolution fixing to-morrow at noon for the trial of Mr. Gilbert. A long debate ensued, during which Mr. Coffey pointed out gross contradictions between Triplett and Sweeney. Mr. Gilbert's defence was read. It assumes that the committee went beyond their powers, having only two witnesses, Sweeney and Triplett, who stand by their own confession, accomplices in guilt, and who seek to connect him with them, and thereby escape the consequences of their own admitted guilt. Mr. Gilbert asserts his innocence, but would cheerfully abide the judgment of the House. Mr. Bennett's resolution was tabled—ayes 73, noes 120.

Mr. Edwards said that Mr. Simonton's testimony was false. Mr. Davis justified the committee. The House then adjourned. Mr. Gilbert will be heard to-morrow.

Congress.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27, 1857.

SENATE.—The Senate was in session till half past 1 o'clock last night, and passed Mr. Hunter's substitute for the House tariff bill, reducing the present tariff 20 per cent. An amendment was also adopted placing the duty on raw wool 23 per cent., and wool valued at 20 cents or less per pound, free. The bill thus amended was passed.

To-day the Senate passed twenty-five private bills.

The post office appropriation bill was passed. The Senate will hold an evening session at 7 o'clock.

HOUSE.—Mr. Gilbert made a speech in defence of his conduct. He denied the truth of the charge of the investigating committee, and denounced the attempt of the House to fix a stigma on his character as unprecedented. He charged the House with gross injustice towards him, and concluded by stating that he had resigned his seat, and he immediately left. The House was taken by surprise. The resolutions referring to his case were tabled—ayes 135, noes 18.

A letter was submitted from Mr. Matteson, setting forth that as no trial had been allowed Mr. Gilbert, he had no right to expect a larger measure of justice, and accordingly he had resigned his seat.

The committee reported in the case of Mr. O. B. Matteson, as follows:

1. Resolved, That Orasmus B. Matteson, a member of this House from the State of New York, did incite parties deeply interested in the passage of a joint resolution for constructing the Des Moines grant, to have here and there a large sum of money and valuable considerations, corruptly, for the purpose of procuring the passage of said joint resolution through this House.

2. Resolved, That Orasmus B. Matteson, in declaring that a large number of members of this House had associated themselves together, and pledged themselves to the other not to vote for any law or resolution granting money or lands unless the Des Moines grant was passed, and by so doing, he had injured the character of this House, and has proved himself unworthy to be a member thereof.

3. Resolved, That Orasmus B. Matteson, a member of this House from the State of New York, be and he is hereby expelled therefrom.

The first resolution was adopted by the House—ayes 145, noes 18. The second was also adopted.—The third was laid on the table.

Mr. Davis called up Mr. Welch's case.

The House adjourned till 7 P. M.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28th, 1857.

SENATE.—The Senate struck out the clause in the Deficiency Bill appropriating one hundred and eighty five thousand dollars for the purchase of books for the members of the House, and then passed the bill. The Senate adopted a resolution calling on the President for all the correspondence with Governor Geary relative to Kansas affairs. The Senate was still in session at 9 P. M.

HOUSE.—The House considered the report of the select committee on the case of Mr. Edwards.

The committee reported in the case of Mr. Edwards of New York, as follows:

1. Resolved, That Francis S. Edwards, a member of this House from the State of New York, did, on the 23d day of December last, attempt to induce Robert T. Paine, a member of this House, from the State of North Carolina, to vote contrary to the dictates of his conscience, and to consent to the making of a grant of lands to aid in the construction of a railroad in the Territory of Minnesota, by holding out a pecuniary consideration to said Paine for his support of said bill.

2. Resolved, That said Francis S. Edwards be and he is hereby expelled from the House.

Mr. Edwards made a speech on the subject, after which the resolutions were laid on the table.

Resolutions were then adopted expelling Mr. Simonton and Mr. Triplett as reporters. The House then passed a bill to protect the people against corrupt and secret influence—ayes 104, noes 83.

The tariff bill was taken up, and the House refused to concur in the Senate's amendments. A committee of conference was asked of the Senate. The House had not adjourned at 9 P. M.

Cadet Appointments—"At Large." To report at West Point between the 1st and 20th June, 1857.

1. Alfred Mordica, son of an officer of the army.

2. John F. O'Brien, son of